GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6407
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2005
UPGRADING OF INSTITUTIONS LABORATORIES
Jha Shri Raghunath;Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are institutions/laboratories aged more than 25 years requiring urgent upgrading by the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE);

(b) if so, whether the scientists are working under poor conditions struggling with obsolete equipments, research tools and laboratories; and

(c) if so, the steps taken for upgrading laboratory equipments, pilot plants, farm and laboratory facilities, class rooms and audio visual facilities for agricultural revolution in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ICAR system dates back to the pre-independence era and the equipment have been periodically replaced depending upon the prioritization and re-prioritization of the research projects and availability of resources.

(c) The Department of Agricultural Research and Education has requested Planning Commission for One Time Catch Up Grant for modernization/renovation of existing research infrastructure. However, the Planning Commission has not allocated One Time Catch Up Grant separately, but it has suggested to utilize funds for modernization / renovation of research infrastructure within the allocated funds during the Annual Plan allocations. The upgrading and updating the research facilities have been taken care of to the extent possible within the allocated funds, while approving the EFC/SFC proposals for Xth Five Year Plan.